Proposed Maximum Residue Limit PMRL2012-22

Uniconazole

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Under the authority of the *Pest Control Products Act*, Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) has concluded that the addition of a new use on greenhouse tomato transplants to the product label of Sumagic Plant Growth Regulator, containing technical grade uniconazole-P, is acceptable. The specific use approved in Canada is detailed on the label of Sumagic Plant Growth Regulator, *Pest Control Products Act* Registration Number 25781.

The evaluation of this uniconazole-P application indicated that the end-use product has merit and value and the human health and environmental risks associated with the new use are acceptable. Details regarding the registration can be found in the corresponding Evaluation Report available in the Pesticides and Pest Management section of Health Canada's website, under Public Registry, Pesticide Product Information Database.[1]

Before registering a pesticide for food use in Canada, the PMRA must determine the quantity of residues that are likely to remain in or on the food when the pesticide is used according to label directions and that such residues will not be a concern to human health. This quantity is then legally established as a maximum residue limit (MRL). An MRL applies to the identified raw agricultural food commodity as well as to any processed food product that contains it, except where separate MRLs are specified for the raw agricultural commodity and a processed product made from it.

Residues of uniconazole-P, the *S*-enantiomer of the resolved (*E*)-isomer, are covered by MRLs established for uniconazole, the unresolved isomeric mixture which includes both the *(E)* and *(Z)*-isomers.

Consultation on the proposed MRL for uniconazole is being conducted via this document (see Next Steps, the last section of this document).

To comply with Canada's international trade obligations, consultation on the proposed MRL is also being conducted internationally by notifying the World Trade Organization, as coordinated by the Standards Council of Canada.

[1] The relevant report can be accessed by selecting Programs and Special Actions/Minor Use/Historical and requesting the Evaluation Report found under Application Number 2011-1974.

The proposed MRL for uniconazole in Canada in or on food is as follows.

Table 1 Proposed Maximum Residue Limits for uniconazole

Common Name	Residue Definition	MRL (ppm)	Food Commodity
Uniconazole	(β*E*)-β-[(4-chlorophenyl)methylene]-α-(1,1-dimethylethyl)-1*H*-1,2,4-triazole-1-ethanol, including the *Z*-isomer [(β*Z*)-β-[(4-chlorophenyl)methylene]-α-(1,1-dimethylethyl)-1*H*-1,2,4-triazole-1-ethanol]	0.01	Tomato Subgroup (Crop Subgroup 8-09A)

ppm = parts per million

A list of all pesticide MRLs established in Canada, as of the date indicated, can be found on the Maximum Residue Limits for Pesticides webpage in the Pesticides and Pest Management section of Health Canada's website.

International Situation and Trade Implications

The MRL proposed for uniconazole in Canada is consistent with the American tolerance for those commodities that belong to both Crop Subgroup 8-09A and Crop Group 8. However, the Canadian MRL includes additional fruiting vegetable commodities from Crop Subgroup 8-09A that are not part of the American tolerance for Crop Group 8 due to revisions made to the crop group in accordance with Update on the Status of the Revisions to the Residue Chemistry Crop Groups (DIR2010-01). American tolerances are listed in the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations, 40 CFR Part 180, by pesticide.

Currently, Codex Alimentarius MRLs[2] have not been established for uniconazole in or on any commodity. A listing of established Codex MRLs is available on the Codex Alimentarius Pesticide Residues in Food website, by commodity or pesticide.

Table 2 Comparison of Canadian MRLs, American Tolerances and Codex MRLs

Food Commodity	Canadian MRL (ppm)	American Tolerance (ppm)	Codex MRL (ppm)
Tomato Subgroup (Crop Subgroup 8-09A)	0.01	0.01 (Vegetable, fruiting, group 8)	Not Established

2 The Codex Alimentarius Commission is an international organization under the auspices of the United Nations that develops international food standards, including MRLs.

Next Steps

The PMRA invites the public to submit written comments on the proposed domestic MRL for uniconazole up to 75 days from the date of publication of this document. Please forward your comments to Publications (see the contact information on the cover page of this document). The PMRA will consider all comments received before making a final decision on the proposed MRL for uniconazole and posting a corresponding Established Maximum Residue Limit document in the Pesticides and Pest Management section of Health Canada's website.